

IN THE CLAIMS:

On substitute page 10, in line 1, cancel ~~"Patent Claims"~~ substitute -
-WE CLAIM AS OUR INVENTION:- therefor.

Please cancel ~~substitute~~ claims 1-26 and ~~substitute~~ the following
5 claims 27-52 therefor:

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27. A method for encoding a digitized image having picture
elements, said method comprising the steps of:
grouping all except at least one picture elements of a digitized
10 image into a number of image segments, said at least one
ungrouped picture element being from at least one area of
said image located between image segments; and
encoding only said picture elements being grouped into an image
segment.

28. A method for encoding and decoding a digitized image
15 having picture elements, said method comprising the steps of:
grouping all except at least one picture elements of a digitized
image into a number of image segments in a first
arrangement, said at least one ungrouped picture element
being from at least one area of said image located between
20 image segments;
encoding said image in said first arrangement by only encoding
said picture elements being grouped into an image segment;
transmitting said encoded image segments from said first
arrangement to a second arrangement;
25 decoding said transmitted image segments in said second
arrangement;
inserting new picture elements corresponding to said non-encoded
picture elements of said encoded image in said second
arrangement in an area between said decoded image
30 segments;

interpolating said area between said image segments in said second arrangement; and allocating encoding information resulting from said interpolating to said new picture elements.

5 29. The method according to claim 27, further comprising the step of:
prior to encoding said grouped picture elements, filtering said image to be encoded.

10 30. Method according to claim 28, wherein said interpolation is performed by low-pass filtering.

15 31. The method according to claim 28, further comprising the step of:
prior to encoding said grouped picture elements, filtering said image to be encoded; and
wherein said interpolation is performed by low-pass filtering.

32. The method according to claim 30, wherein said low-pass filtering is performed essentially at edges of said image segments.

33. The method according to claim 30, wherein said filtering is performed after said decoding.

20 34. The method according to claim 33, wherein said filtering is performed essentially at edges of said image segments.

35. The method according to claim 27, wherein said image segments are image blocks.

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36. The method according to claim 35, wherein at least respectively one picture element is not grouped into any image block between said image blocks.

37. The method according to claim 28, wherein said interpolating is performed by a number of filters.

38. The method according to claim 37, wherein said filters have characteristics dependent on an image quality of an image block; and wherein a strength characteristic of a filter increases with a reduction of said image quality of said image block.

39. The method according to claim 37, wherein said filters have characteristics dependent on a motion vector of an image block; and wherein a strength characteristic of a filter increases with a size of a motion vector being allocated to a respective image block.

40. The method according to claim 27, wherein said encoding is according to the H.263 standard.

41. The method according to claim 28, wherein said encoding is according to the H.263 standard; and wherein said encoded image is transmitted from said first arrangement to said second arrangement by employing a capability table according to the H.245 standard.

42. The method according to claim 27, further comprising the step of:
implementing a motion compensation upon said digitized image.

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43. An arrangement for encoding a digitized image having picture elements, said arrangement comprising:

a processor unit having a processor and a memory including a program comprising the steps of:

5 grouping all except at least one picture elements of a digitized image into a number of image segments, said at least one ungrouped picture element being from at least one area of said image located between image segments; and
10 encoding only said picture elements being grouped into an image segment.

44. An arrangement for encoding and decoding a digitized image having picture elements, said arrangement comprising:

a first arrangement having a first processor unit comprising a processor and a memory including a program comprising the steps of:

15 grouping all except at least one picture elements of a digitized image into a number of image segments, said at least one ungrouped picture element being from at least one area of said image located between image segments; and
20 encoding said image by only encoding said picture elements being grouped into an image segment;

a transmitter for transmitting said encoded image from said first arrangement to a second arrangement;

25 a second arrangement having a second processor unit comprising a processor and a memory including a program comprising the steps of:

30 decoding said transmitted image segments;
inserting new picture elements corresponding to said non-

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interpolating said area between said image segments in said second arrangement; and
allocating encoding information resulting from said interpolating to said new picture elements.

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Figure 1 is a 3D bar chart illustrating the distribution of the number of children per woman by country and sex. The vertical axis (Y-axis) represents the number of children, ranging from 0 to 10. The horizontal axis (X-axis) lists the countries: USA, Mexico, India, China, and Japan. The depth axis (Z-axis) represents the sex: Male and Female. The chart shows that the distribution of children per woman is generally higher for females than for males across all countries. The USA and Mexico show a higher frequency of 2 children, while India and China show a higher frequency of 3 children. Japan shows a higher frequency of 1 child.

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50. The arrangement according to claim 43, wherein said first